

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2583

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 3205

LIMDIS

FOR EUR/SE AND SY

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ASEC CY US

SUBJECT: GOC REQUESTS SPECIALIZED TRAINING FOR POLICE OFFICER
IN CHARGE OF PRESIDENT'S PERSONAL SECURITY DETAIL

1. GOC MININT VENIAMIN HAS REQUESTED AMBASSADOR'S ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING SPECIALIZED TRAINING IN US FOR INSPECTOR ANDREAS POTAMARIS, SENIOR POLICE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS'S PERSONAL SECURITY DETAIL. TRAINING DESIRED IS IN (A) VIP PROTECTION AND (B) TECHNICAL SECURITY. GOC DESIRES TRAINING TO BEGIN SOONEST. POTAMARIS CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR UP TO THREE MONTHS.

2. WHEN AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT THAT QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR EXPERTISE IN TWO FIELDS CITED WERE QUITE DIFFERENT, THE LATTER REQUIRING PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE IN ELECTRONICS, MININT SAID TRAINING IN TECHNICAL SECURITY NEED BE SUFFICIENT ONLY TO GIVE OFFICER GENERAL FAMILIARITY WITH PROBLEMS AND TECHNIQUES IN THIS FIELD. TO AMBASSADOR'S QUESTION ABOUT FINANCING, VENIAMIN SAID GOC COULD HANDLE COST OF TRANSPORT TO AND FROM US BUT WOULD APPRECIATE ASSISTANCE IN MEETING COSTS OF COURSES, PER DIEM WHILE IN US. AMBASSADOR HAD IMPRESSION, HOWEVER, THAT GOC WOULD BE WILLING MEET ALL COSTS IF NECESSARY.

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3. COMMENT: THIS REQUEST CONSTITUTES A CALCULATED

AND POLITICALLY SIGNIFICANT GESTURE BY MAKARIOS. A
PROMPT AND COMPREHENSIVE AFFIRMATIVE RESPONSE WILL
BE HELPFUL IN OUR RELATIONS WITH HIM.

4. REVIEWING THE POSSIBILITIES AS KNOWN TO US HERE,
WE RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT CONSIDER A PACKAGE REPLY
OFFERING SOMETHING ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES, AT GOC
EXPENSE. THREE ONE-WEEK COURSES AT INTERNATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE IN (A) VIP PROTECTION,
(B) BOMBS AND (C) HOSTAGE NEGOTIATION; ONE OR TWO
WEEKS OF BRIEFING BY PRIVATE COMMERCIAL FIRMS PRODUCING
TECHNICAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT. WE WOULD BE GLAD TO
CONSIDER, HOWEVER, ANY ALTERNATIVE SUGGESTIONS PUT
BY DEPARTMENT.

5. DEPARTMENT ADVISE SOONEST.
CRAWFORD

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